

FLAMBEAU RIVER STATE FOREST

ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2005

Following is the proposed Flambeau River State Forest work plan for the year 2005. The plan gives direction and meaning to the proposed State Forest budget. The plan further defines and supplements the Master Plan and emphasizes the current needs of the State Forest and Recreational System.

I. TIMBER HARVEST

Timber harvests are not only important for the economic well being of the State of Wisconsin, but also for the health and vigor of the forest. This includes all aspects of the forest including wildlife, watershed protection, air quality, recreation, and many other noncommercial values. Professional implementation of proper forest management and harvest techniques is essential. The timber management goal is to produce sustained yields of forest products by scheduling timber sales as close as possible to achieve the average annual allowable cut. Compartment reconnaissance information from Schedule 12A will be used to determine stands where timber cutting is needed. Flambeau River State Forest plans to offer for sale approximately 800-2800 acres of timber (excluding salvage operations due to unknown occurrences) in the following timber types in 2005.

Aspen	<u>330</u>	acres*
Red Pine	<u>75</u>	acres*
Northern Hardwoods	<u>1750</u>	acres*
FIR / Spruce	<u>155</u>	acres*
Swamp Hardwood	<u>250</u>	acres*
Other Species as needed	<u>260</u>	acres*
Total	<u>2820</u>	acres*

*** These acreages relate to the resource needs (allowable cut). Actual acreage to be established based on existing staff available will be 30% of resource needs (846ac.). Additional acreage will be established as available labor allows.**

Information about what timber sale establishment activities are occurring at a specific time may be obtained by contacting the Flambeau River State Forest, W1613 Rd. W., Winter, WI 54896; phone (715) 332-5271.

II. REFORESTATION

A. Scarification of Soil:

1. Pre-harvest 30 acres (birch, balsam, and hemlock)

2. Post-harvest	<u>0</u> acres
B. Site preparation:	
1. Mechanical (Bracke)	<u>00</u> acres
2. Mechanical (disk trench)	<u>000</u> acres
3. Chemical	<u>0</u> acres
C. Direct Seeding	<u>30</u> acres
D. Plantings	<u>00</u> acres
E. Replanting	<u>0</u> acres

III. TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

A. Release:	
1. Hand	<u>30</u> acres
2. Chemical	<u>0</u> acres
B. Pre-Commercial Thinning	<u>0</u> acres

IV. STATE FOREST ROADS

- A. Grade most of the 28 miles entered into the all-season road designation.
- B. Improve other lanes and roads not entered into the all-season road designation as road funds become available.
- C. Mow 24 miles of the existing all-season roads.

V. TIMBER ACCESS TRAILS

- A. Initiate public comments on proposed Flambeau River State Forest access Plan.
- B. Continue to plan all roads and access to keep them to a minimum.
- C. Continue road inventory project using GPS and collect information regarding use, work needs, and future use needs. Initiate project funding
- D. Continue program to upgrade roads open to motor vehicles in order to reduce erosion and rutting. Initiate project funding.

VI. LAND ACQUISITION

- A. Follow direction of Master Plan.
 1. Evaluate land purchases as presented to State Forest staff.
 2. Improve record and contact list for land in holdings. Create mailing list and initiate mailing.

VII. SURVEYING

- A. Present to Lands Division problem areas for certified survey or re-monumentation efforts. Surveys generally needed to prevent trespass or to clarify boundaries in order to continue management.
- B. Complete historical review of survey records within the Forest and develop and enter into GIS layer
- C. Utilize GPS unit to locate interior property corners where section corners are available to assist in placement of cutting lines.

VIII. FOREST PROTECTION

- A. Continue cooperation with internal partners by:
 1. Continue staff cooperation in fire suppression efforts when needed.
 2. Continue to monitor for invasive species.
 3. Assist in monitoring for emerald ash borer

IX. MULTIPLE USE AND ECOSYSTEM-BASED PROJECTS

- A. Initiate efforts to regenerate, white birch, balsam, red oak, hemlock, white spruce and other intolerant timber types, through planting, scarification, prescribed burning, and other silvicultural harvest methods.
- B. Cooperate with NRCS in the verification of habitat/soils relationships.
- C. Assist with ongoing old growth and regeneration surveys on the Forest.
- D. Review of 25 unique cultural treatments that followed the 1977 windstorm.

X. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) / COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

- A. Develop timber sale history layer
- B. Begin examining the development of cultural/archeological/historical layers
- C. Continue to acquire GPS coordinates for all known survey monuments pertinent to the State Forest.
- D. Assist in the development of a State Forest website in order to disseminate work plan and seasonal information to the public.
- E. Develop wildlife layer.

XI. RECREATION AREAS

- A. Snowmobile trails
 - 1. Continue to maintain 55 miles of state funded snowmobile trails.
- C. Ski Trails:
 - 1. Continue to groom and maintain 14 miles of the Flambeau Hills ski trail. Brush mowing of the trail will be completed by July 1st, 2005.
 - 3. Examine the potential for constructing short loop on north end of trail system along with moving parking lot south of Hwy 70. Initiate project funding.
 - 4. Maintain kiosk located at north and south parking lots.
- F. ATV trails
 - 1. Begin repair work on existing ATV trail between Lincoln road south to County Road W.
 - 2. Review repair work on existing ATV trail south of County Road W. to southern trail head. Initiate project funding.
 - 3. Examine with local club a potential linking trail between Tower Hill Rd and Forest Headquarters. ATV club will concentrate on easement agreements and potential route within this corridor. Initiate project funding.
 - 4. Propose the purchase of gravel spreader and trail drag to improve maintenance of existing trails. Initiate project funding.
- D. Other recreation trails:
 - 1. Examine and propose necessary improvements to Flambeau Hills trail system improving mountain bike opportunities. Initiate project funding
 - 2. Complete Lake of the Pines Nature Trail surface renovation. Initiate new signing for the trail system.
- F. Parks & Campgrounds:
 - 1. Connors Park (29 units)

- a. Complete construction of new bathrooms
 - b. Continue maintain and operate facilities.
 - e. Resurface and provide electric to handicap sites.
- 2. Lake of the Pines (30 units)
 - a. Continue to operate and maintain facilities.
 - b. Propose expansion of parking lot and providing handicap accessible dock. Initiate project funding.
 - c. Review opportunities to improve beach area. Initiate project funding
- 3. Connors Lake Picnic Area:
 - a. Continue to operate and maintain facilities.
 - b. Propose handicap accessible dock and access to beach area. Initiate project funding
- 4. River Campsites (35 sites)
 - a. Continue to operate and maintain facilities.
 - b. Initiate review of campsite landings for erosion problems, and initiate project funding.
 - c. Hold meeting and open dialog with camp outfitters and canoe rental businesses using the river.
- G. Other:
 - 1. Increase maintenance levels of State Forest boat landings. Initiate project funding to provide slide in launches at Hwy W and Fishermans landings.
 - 2. GIS and initiate improvements to remote hunting camping locations on the forest. Initiate project funding.

XII. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

- A. State Forest facilities:
 - 1. Forest headquarters
 - a. Continue to operate and maintain facilities.
 - b. Correct basement flooding. Initiate project funding.
 - c. Examine expansion opportunities to existing Headquarter building to provide additional office space, interpretive lobby lunchroom and meeting room space.
 - 2. Miscellaneous storage and repair facilities.
 - a. Continue to operate and maintain facilities.
 - b. Re-paint state house garage. Initiate project funding.
 - c. Seal coat existing parking and driveways.
 - d. Examine opportunities for LTE housing on Forest. Initiate project funding.
- B. Equipment
 - 1. Recommend purchase of utility ATV.
 - 2. Recommend purchase of ATV trail drag.
 - 3. Recommend purchase of tine gravel spreader.
 - 4. Recommend replacement of present inoperable tracked loader
 - 5. Recommend purchase of disc. renovator
 - 6. Recommend purchase of brush flail mower

XIII Wildlife

- A. Maintenance of 30 wildlife openings via chemical treatments and mowing.
- B. Mowing of Sobieski and Pelican Lake hunter walking trail system.
- C. Continue to maintain and inspect Sobieski Flowage.
- D. Continue furbearer, bear, ruffed grouse, raptor, frog and toad survey/counts.
- E. Initiate wildlife opening GIS layer

XIV. Fishery

- A. Proposed stocking for 2005 based on hatchery production is 630 large fingerling muskellunge for the Flambeau River, and 273 for Lake of the Pines.
- B. Initiate request to identify and survey potential trout streams associated with the Forest

XV Staff/Personnel

- A. Hire summer forester LTE position using State Forest productivity money. Position will assist with hardwood marking and GPS inventory of roads and trails.
- B. Hire 3 summer LTE facility repair workers and 1 campground attendant.
- C. Based on available funding additional LTE forester positions will be hired to update forest reconnaissance, timber sale establishment, and road inventory.
- D. The Forest has the availability to utilize prisoners from the Flambeau prison camp. They will be used on a number of projects including brushing of trails, building maintenance and construction, gate fabrication, campground maintenance, forest improvement projects (TSI), and trail renovations.